

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-04 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-14 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 SPC-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SWF-02

OMB-01 STR-08 SS-20 NSC-07 L-03 H-03 PRS-01 PA-04

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TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: DATES AND AGENDA FOR NEXT OECD MINISTERIAL
COUNCIL MEETING

REF: (A) USOECD 2978 (B) USOECD 6953

1. SUMMARY. COUNCIL MARCH 5 HAD ANOTHER INCONCLUSIVE
DISCUSSION ON QUESTION OF DATES AND AGENDA FOR NEXT
MINISTERIAL COUNCIL. SEC GEN URGED COUNCIL TO "RESERVE
IN PRINCIPLE" MAY 16-18 FOR MINISTERIAL IN HOPE OF
REACHING FORMAL AGREEMENT SHORTLY. ACTION REQUESTED:
INSTRUCTIONS ON US PREFERENCES FOR DATE AND AGENDA OF
NEXT MINISTERIAL. END SUMMARY

2. DATES: SEC GEN VAN LENNEP RECALLED THAT PRACTICALLY
ALL DELEGATIONS HAD NO DIFFICULTY WITH HIS PROPOSAL TO
HOLD NEXT MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MAY 16-18. RECOGNIZING
THAT SOME GOVERNMENTS WERE NOT YET IN POSITION FORMALLY
TO APPROVE THESE DATES, VAN LENNEP URGED COUNCIL TO
RESERVE THEM IN PRINCIPLE WITH VIEW TO REACHING FORMAL
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AGREEMENT ASAP. CANADIAN AND JAPANESE DELS REITERATED

PROBLEMS MAY 16-18 POSED FOR THEM (REF B). CANADIAN DEL SUGGESTED SEC GEN CONSIDER EARLIER OR LATER DATES IF CONVENIENT TO OTHER DELS. JAPANESE DEL SAID IF ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AGREED TO MAY 16-18, GOJ COULD ALSO ACCEPT. FRG DEL NOTED THAT BUDGET HEARINGS BEGIN IN BONN MAY 13, THEREBY RAISING DIFFICULTIES FOR FRG MINISTERIAL ATTENDANCE IN PARIS THAT WEEK. HE EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR LATER DATES IN MAY BUT SAID FRG WOULD DO ITS BEST TO SEND AN APPROPRIATE MINISTER IF ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AGREED TO MAY 16-18. US REP SAID WE HAD RECEIVED NO INSTRUCTIONS TO OPPOSE MAY 16-18 OR TO SUGGEST OTHER DATES, BUT WE WERE NOT AUTHORIZED TO APPROVE MAY 16-18. FRENCH DEL WAS UNAWARE OF ANY CONFLICT WITH THOSE DATES.

3. AGENDA. SWEDISH DEL SAID GOS WOULD PREFER TO KEEP DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AS SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM RATHER THAN SUBSUME IT UNDER ITEM ONE AS SUGGESTED EARLIER BY BELGIAN DEL (REF B). IF MAJORITY FAVORED BELGIAN PROPOSAL, GOS WOULD GO ALONG PROVIDED THAT DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WERE SHOWN AS SEPARATE SUB-ITEM UNDER AGENDA ITEM ONE.
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